

WEST LAFAYETTE TRAFFIC COMMISSION

WEST LAFAYETTE CITY BUILDING

WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

TIME: 5:00 pm, Tuesday, February 19, 2010

PLACE: Lower Level Conference Room

PRESENT:	Dave Buck	John Cox	Chris Pekny
	Vicki Burch	Nick BeBoer	Kumares Sinha
	David Christian	Karen O'Farrell	Boudewijn van Gelder

VISITORS:	Wendy Field	Ann Hunt	David Tate
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Chairman Sinha brought the meeting to order and determined there was a quorum. Ms. O'Farrell made a correction to item #08-03 of the January minutes: "Mr. Buck **said** there is..." Mr. Christian made a motion to approve the January minutes and Mr. van Gelder seconded. The January minutes were approved as corrected.

NEW BUSINESS:

10-01 Citizen Concerns

David Tate brought to the commission several items of concern. Mr. Tate stated that he was pleased to see the newly installed mid-block crossings at Northwestern and Russell, but he expressed concern that cars were allowed to park too close to the crosswalks making pedestrians difficult to see. Mr. Tate requested the city remove some parking so the crosswalks would be more visible. Mr. Buck stated he would evaluate the vision triangle at these locations and take some speed counts to see if more yellow is warranted.

Mr. Tate requested the city enforce posted "No Parking in a Fire Lane" restrictions. He used the parking lots at Payless and Marsh as examples. Mr. Christian asked if we had the authority to ticket vehicles in a private lot. Capt. Leroux stated that if the fire lane is "legally marked", vehicles may be ticketed. Capt. Leroux has instructed his officers to be more visible at these locations. Unattended vehicles will be ticketed, attended vehicles will be asked to move. Mr. Tate suggested that the library drop boxes in front of Payless could be moved to a new location. Mr. Buck will make contact with the libraries that have boxes at this location and discuss this issue.

Mr. Tate suggested that the side streets which intersect Northwestern need more yellow paint. His concern is the section of Northwestern between the old Smittys and Cherry Lane. Vehicles are allowed to park too close to Northwestern creating vision obstructions and making it difficult for vehicles to turn onto Northwestern. This is especially evident on game days. Mr. Buck will look into this request.

10-02 Progressive Driving Enforcement Campaign

Capt. Leroux stated that the focus of their Progressive Driving Enforcement Campaign will be aggressive driving and will take place from March 5th to March 21st. Four intersections which show a high crash occurrence will be the focus of the campaign: US 52 and Cumberland, US 52 and Yeager, US 52 and Salisbury, and State and River.

Capt. Leroux also stated that the city's Crash Reports may now be accessed through the police website: www.westlafayettepd.us.

10-03 Hills and Dales Traffic Study

Mr. Buck presented a partial traffic study for the Hills and Dales neighborhood. This study was prompted by a citizen with speed and visual obstruction concerns. The traffic study will analyze road plans to make a recommendation on posted speed limits. The study is in its early stages, but will eventually include an area bounded by Northwestern, Grant, Meridian, and Lindberg.

10-04 Purdue Summer Construction Projects

Chief Cox stated that there will be a meeting in mid-March to overview Purdue's summer construction schedule. Chief Cox would like to invite any Traffic Commission members who would be interested in attending. Capt. Leroux asked if Purdue would continue to bring construction projects which affect city streets to the commission. Chief Cox stated that they would. Mr. Buck commented that private construction projects may be affected by Purdue's summer construction. An attempt should be made to make the public aware of Purdue's upcoming construction schedule.

OLD BUSINESS:

08-12 Russell/Waldron/University Island

Chief Cox asked Mr. Buck for an update on lowering the speed limit in the "island" area. Mr. Buck replied that his office would take speed counts as soon as the weather allowed.

07-09 Cumberland Avenue Reconstruction

Mr. Buck stated that construction on the first phase of the Cumberland project is about to begin. Barricades and construction zone signs will be out on Monday, March 1st. During the first sequence of construction, the section of Cumberland between US 52 and the entrance to Salem Courthouse apartments will be closed in both directions. Construction on this sequence should be complete in June.

During the second sequence of construction, the newly constructed west end of Cumberland will remain open, with alternating construction zones on the east end of Cumberland. The south side will be constructed first, then the north side. It is expected that there will be some thru traffic during this time.

NEXT MEETING: 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 18, 2010, Lower Level Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted,

David M. Buck, P.E.
City Engineer

DMB/wf